

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1 1. An apparatus comprising:
2 a media receptacle to hold a plurality of media objects;
3 a clip to engage and hold a media object;
4 a suction device mounted to a side of the media receptacle to engage a
5 first media object within the receptacle and move it to be engaged by the clip; and
6 a switch coupled to the clip to cause the suction device to disengage the
7 first media object.

8 2. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the suction device comprises:
9 a suction chamber having a perforated plate defining at least a portion
10 of one side thereof, the perforated plate also defining a portion of an interior surface
11 of the receptacle; and
12 a suction pump coupled to the suction chamber to evacuate the suction
13 chamber thereby exposing the interior of the receptacle to suction through the
14 perforated plate.

15 3. The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising:
16 a light box coupled to the receptacle;
17 a housing wherein the receptacle is coupled to the housing to move
18 between a first position and a second position and wherein in the first position the

5 light box is aligned with the clip and in the second position the receptacle is aligned
6 with the clip.

1 4. The apparatus of claim 3 wherein the light box comprises:
2 a translucent plate; and
3 a plurality of thin cold cathode lamps.

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1 5. The apparatus of claim 3 wherein in the first position the receptacle is
2 recessed with the housing.

1 6. The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising:
2 a housing defining a scanning window;
3 a digitizer mounted within the housing, wherein the clip transports
4 the media object past the scanning window during operation.

1 7. The apparatus of claim 6 wherein the clip further comprises:
2 a release lever to be engaged by the housing after the clip has
3 transported the media object past the scanning window, the release lever causing
4 the clip to release the media object when engaged.

1 8. An apparatus comprising:
2 a receptacle to receive media objects;

3 a clip coupled to the receptacle to engage and hold a media object
4 during a digitization process; and
5 a suction assembly coupled to the receptacle to move the media object
6 from the receptacle to engagement with the clip.

1 9. The apparatus of claim 8 wherein the suction assembly comprises:
2 a suction plate defining one side of a suction cavity and a portion of a
3 side of the receptacle;
4 a vacuum cylinder coupled to the suction cavity to move the suction
5 cavity when a pressure reaches a predetermined threshold; and
6 a suction pump in communication with the suction cavity and the
7 vacuum cylinder.

1 10. The apparatus of claim 8 wherein the clip comprises:
2 a pair of jaws defining a cavity;
3 a spring biasing the pair of jaws together;
4 a roller aligned with the cavity between the jaws to hold the jaws apart
5 wherein insertion of a media object between the jaws causes the roller to move into
6 the cavity such that the jaws close about the media object; and
7 a release to cause the jaws to separate to release the media object and to
8 permit the roller to reseal between the jaws.

1 11. The apparatus of claim 10 wherein the clip further comprises:



2 a magnet biased to engage a magnetic switch when a media object is not
3 within the clip and to disengage a magnetic switch once a media object is within the
4 clip, wherein the magnetic switch activates the suction pump.

1 12. The apparatus of claim 10 wherein the roller is a sphere or a cylinder.

1 13. The apparatus of claim 8 further comprising:

2 a light box coupled such that the light box is aligned with the clip when
3 in a first position and the receptacle is aligned with the clip in a second position.

1 14. The apparatus of claim 9 wherein the suction assembly further
2 comprises a solenoid valve to release pressure in the vacuum cylinder and the
3 suction chamber when the suction pump shuts off.

1 15. The apparatus of claim 8 further comprising:

2 a magnet coupled to the receptacle to restrain movement of the
3 receptacle until a force reaches a threshold.